



# Introduction

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## BRIEF HISTORY OF THE OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL STUDENT ADVISOR

The office of the special student advisor was created in 1992 in the aftermath of the structural adjustment programme imposed by the Bretton Woods institutions. Specifically, it required the Kenyan government to introduce cost sharing in the education sector. Consequently, university students were required to pay fees for the first time in the history of higher education in Kenya.

This caused considerable disquiet among the students and their parents in particular, students from poor families faced the danger of being locked out of the higher education in the event, the government undertook to provide a safety net in form of loans and bursaries to them. For this purpose, University of Nairobi found it necessary to establish an office that would identify such cases. But over the years, the original mandate of the office has been expanded to include providing advisory services in academic, financial and social issues. For example, it liaises with the Higher Education Loans Board on behalf of the students.

The more desperate cases are enrolled in the work-study programme where they earn a bit of money for paying fees. While the others are given an opportunity of running business premises within the university.

### Work study programme

The University of Nairobi offers needy students opportunities to work within departments, units and the students welfare authority to raise funds for subsistence during the course of their study. The services are coordinated by the office of the Special Student Advisor and are available to all bonafide module I students who are on session.

For more information on work study programme, please contact the office.

### Needy Students Bursaries

The University of Nairobi endeavor to create an environment where all students despite their financial background can learn and excel to become holistic graduates and contribute to the development of the nation.

Needy students who excel in their studies access bursaries and scholarships from the University and other partners.

For more information on this, please contact the office.

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Published on Special Student Advisor (<http://studentsadvisor.uonbi.ac.ke>)

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